

In re the Rule 53(b) Continuation Application of: **Minoru KAKINUMA et al.**

S/N 09/204,276 Filed December 3, 1998

Preliminary Amendment

Attorney Docket No. 981414A

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on line 4, page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/204,276 filed on December 3, 1998. The present invention relates to electronic cameras (commonly called as digital still camera) in which a plurality of image pickup signals of different exposure amount read out from a single image pickup device are synthesized to obtain an image having a wide dynamic range.